

UNIVERSITY RIGHTS BY DEED OF LAND

Galtsoff, 1962, The Story of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory Woods Hole, Massachusetts, Circular 145, pp. 29-30 - "To obtain the contributions, Baird offered the universities continuous use of research tables in the proposed laboratory. In a letter of September 3, 1881, to Forbes, Baird wrote as follows: ' . . . I have written to Alexander Agassiz asking him if he would like to join in the enterprise and promising him a perpetual right to a table in the laboratory and the facilities of the station to be utilized by anyone he may designate. This is the system adopted at the Naples Aquarium, where establishment by this means has been successfully maintained. '

Baird (1885, p. LIV) states: 'The colleges in question and Mr. Agassiz made their contributions with the understanding that, as far as possible, they were each allowed to send one specialist to the station for the purpose of carrying on scientific research.' This promise was continued to be honored by his successors. On one occasion, in May, 1895, Commissioner McDonald denied the privilege and stated 'this agreement, as a matter of contract, is not authorized by law; as a matter of courtesy, it has been and will be carried out unless something intervenes to make it impossible.' (Letter on file at the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole.) Conklin (1944) writes that 'when, on one occasion, this privilege was cancelled by a Commissioner of Fisheries, Mr. Agassiz fought the order with characteristic vigor, and it was rescinded. '"

Abbiati, 1956, Report of encroachments on lands of the United States at Woods Hole. Typed memorandum to Regional Director, Boston 11, Massachusetts, February 20, 1956. pp. 2-3. "I found no further information with regard to the rights to a table in the laboratory in the files, excepting a letter of March 27, 1883 from Dr. Samuel F. Clark to Professor Baird which reads in part as follows: ' . . . I am going abroad and the College folks have requested me to ask you for some paper in case of our death to show that Williams is entitled to a representation at Woods Hole.' In discussing the question of a right to a table with Mr. Bailey of the Regional Office, he informed me he remembers various individuals from colleges and museums making an annual trip to Woods Hole and using Service facilities during summer months for various biological investigations. He also informed me that at the time of the Second World War, when the Woods Hole Station was taken over by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, that the various contributors were notified by the Service of the action being taken and that facilities at the Woods Hole Station would not be available to them for some time. Mr. Bailey is of the opinion that some of these early contributors relinquished their rights to the use of the Woods Hole Station. The question of the right to a table at Woods Hole remained unresolved. '"

Report of the Commissioners for 1883 (1885) vol. 11, p. LIV. "The colleges in question and Mr. Agassiz made their contribution with the understanding that, as far as possible, they were each to be allowed to send one specialist to the station for the purpose of carrying on scientific research. "